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Municipality/Organization: Town of Sterling
EPA NPDES Permit Number: MA041222
MaDEP Transmittal Number: W-041087
**Annual Report Number
& Reporting Period:** No. 6: March 08-March 09

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: William Tuttle **Title:** Superintendent
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Certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: 
Printed Name: William P. Tuttle
Title: Superintendent of Public Works
Date: 4/6/2010

Part II. Self-Assessment

The Town of Sterling has completed the required self-assessment and has determined that our municipality is in compliance with all permit conditions, except the following provisions

Part II.F

Public education has been lacking due to the inability to broadcast on local access tv. As of this date the new Sterling-Lancaster

Cable company has just come on line and PSA's can now be broadcast.

DPW refresher training for employees needs to be completed.

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

1. Public Education and Outreach

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 6 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 7
1-1	Co-sponsor Biennial Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring/Fall '03 - Spring/Fall '04 - Spring/Fall '05 - Spring/Fall '06 - Spring/Fall '07-09 - Co-sponsor two Wachusett Earthday Collection events each year. - Continue to provide financial assistance for the development of the Wachusett Earthday Collection brochure on a bi-annual basis. - Make the Wachusett Earthday Collection brochure available to the public at the Sterling Town Hall and other municipal buildings. - Advertise the Wachusett Earthday Collection events via a press release to the Sterling Meetinghouse News and the Holden Landmark newspapers. - Update the Town's web page to include details of the Wachusett Earthday Collection events and links to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) web sites pertaining to household hazardous waste. - Track the amounts and types of waste collected at each event. - Track the number of Sterling vehicles that participate in the event each. Fall '03, Winter '03/04 – Winter '07/08/09 - Broadcast "Save Your Lake" video on Channel 8, the public access cable station, at least twice each year during the spring and summer months of the permit term beginning in the Spring of 2004. - Obtain "Oil Leak" & "Fertilizer" PSAs from the Washington State Department of Ecology Water Quality Consortium. - Track how frequently the PSA's are broadcast on Channel 8 from the Fall of 2003 through the end of the permit term.	- Residents were instructed and allowed to participate in a hazardous waste day held in Lunenburg, MA on 5/3/08 and 9/27/08. - A news brief advertising the event was placed in the Sterling Meetinghouse News and the Holden Landmark newspaper regarding both events. - Flyers advertising the HHW Collection Day event were developed and available to the public at the Sterling Town Hall, DPW and other municipal buildings. - An unknown number of Sterling vehicles were counted at this event. - Registration was available at www.MassToss.com.	- Wachusett Earthday Inc. has officially opened. It is a 7 town collaborative recycle center which collects bulk waste and Hazardous Household Products. The first HHP collection was held on Dec. 5th, 2009. A bulk waste collection was also held on Feb., 6th, 2010. - Collection dates for HHP in 2010 are: - May 1st - July 10 - Sept. 11th - Nov. 6th - Many vehicles from Sterling were recorded as attending the first two collections.
1-2	Place Educational Information on Sterling Public Access Television	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring '05 – Winter 07/08/09 - Post stormwater related information on the Sterling Public Services web site upon its complete implementation. - Update web site regularly.	No public educational videos have been run due to lack of local cable access and tech difficulties. The Town of Sterling is in the final negotiations with a cable company to provide local cable access for the Town which will allow for future access.	Educational videos have not been run to date. Sterling-Lancaster local access cable company has recently come online. Educational PSA's will be broadcast this year.
1-3	Post Educational Information on the Town's Official Web Site	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring '05 – Winter 07/08/09 - Post stormwater related information on the Sterling Public Services web site upon its complete implementation. - Update web site regularly.	Stormwater related information has been posted on the DPW website www.sterlingdpw.com and the Town of Sterling official website www.sterling-ma.gov (under protective bylaws)	Stormwater related information has been posted on the DPW website www.sterlingdpw.com and the Town of Sterling official website www.sterling-ma.gov (under protective bylaws)
1-4	Promote Water Conservation Practices to Homeowners	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring/Summer '04, Spring '05 – Winter '07/08/09 - Include water conservation information in the Sterling Annual Water-Quality Report. - Include water conservation educational information in the DPW Notes section of the Sterling Meetinghouse News two times per year. - Post water conservation information on the DPW's web page.	- Water conservation information is in the Sterling 2008 Annual Water-Quality Report. - A new Water Use Restriction Bylaw has been adopted by the Water Commissioners to protect, preserve and maintain the public health, safety and welfare during imposed restrictions. - Water conservation info is posted on the DPW website www.sterlingdpw.com and maintained regularly.	- Water conservation information is in the Sterling 2009 Annual Water-Quality Report. - A Water Use Restriction Bylaw has been adopted by the Water Commissioners to protect, preserve and maintain the public health, safety and welfare during imposed restrictions. - Water conservation info is posted on the DPW website www.sterlingdpw.com and maintained regularly.

1-5	Publish Educational Information Targeted to Community Businesses	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring '06 - Develop an educational press release targeted to the stormwater management practices of local businesses. - Submit press release to the Sterling Meetinghouse News for publishing. - Post the informational press release on the Town's official website.	<i>Information on best management practices has been posted on DPW website www.sterlingdpw.com</i>	<i>Information on best management practices has been posted on DPW website www.sterlingdpw.com</i>
1-6	Conduct EnviroScape Demonstrations at Local Schools	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring '05, Spring '06, Spring '07/08/09 - Each Spring during the permit term, the Sterling DPW will borrow the EnviroScape watershed/nonpoint source model from the MDC office for use in their educational demonstrations. - Each year conduct the EnviroScape demonstrations for all fourth grade students at Sterling's public middle school.	The DCR division of Water Supply Protection will be performing outreach to watershed residents the week of May 2, 2010. It will include brochures and a display informing Sterling residents about water quality and ways to protect drinking water, ground water supplies, surface waters, as well as ways to improve stormwater runoff.	This activity did not take place this year due to time constraints.

1a. Additions

No additions to report.

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 5 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 6
2-1	Public Access to Draft SWMP & Receipt of Comment	Sterling Department of Public Work	Summer '03 • Make draft SWMP available to the public and conduct public comment period. • Finalize SWMP. • Make the final SWMP accessible to the public via the Town's public library and web page.	No Activities planned beyond Permit Year 1	No Activities planned beyond Permit Year 1
2-2	Public Access to Annual Report & Receipt of Comment	Sterling Department of Public Work	Spring '04/05/06/07/08/09 • Prepare an annual report. • Submit an annual report to both the EPA and MA DEP.	Report was submitted late this year due to lack of sufficient office staff. There was an ice storm and subsequent declaration of a Natural Disaster which has and continues to consume vast amounts of time.	Report prepared and submitted.
2-3	Provide Support to Local Cleanup Activities	Sterling Department of Public Work	Spring '04/05/06/07/08/09 • Draft and distribute an annual letter offering assistance with local cleanup activities to neighborhood associations, homeowner associations, lake associations, and civic groups active in Sterling. • Track which entities the letters are sent to each year. • Track the number of cleanup activities the DPW assists in conducting each year. • Track the number of cleanup participants at each activity the DPW assists in conducting. • Track which areas of Town are cleaned by each activity the DPW assists in conducting.	• A June 09 clean-up day was cancelled due to rainy weather the entire month. It has not been rescheduled to date. • A town clean-up day for trash has not been conducted to date due to disaster clean up.	• A cub scout clean-up day is being scheduled for May 2010.

2a. Additions

No additions to report.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 5 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 6
3-1	Update the Town's Storm Drain System Map	Sterling Planning Board Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring '06– Winter '07/08/09 - Draft and take to Town Meeting an amendment to the Protective Bylaws that would require project proponents for any project regulated by Site Plan Review to submit a copy of the as-built plans to the Planning Board in digital format. - Draft an amendment to the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land that would require project proponents to submit a copy of the subdivision's as-built plans to the Planning Board in digital format. - Adopt the proposed amendment to the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land at a meeting of the Planning Board. - Continuously update the storm drainage system map as new components are added to the municipal storm drainage system. - Conduct an inventory of the unmapped storm drainage facilities and digitize the as-built plans for conversion into a GIS format for inclusion in the Town's Storm Drainage System Map.	- Goals were revised. No activities took place this year. - Planning Board has developed proposed amendments to regulations and bylaw changes. These proposed bylaw changes will be brought to the next town meeting in Oct. '07 for approval. - An inventory has been conducted of the unmapped storm drainage facilities. It is hoped to digitize the as-built plans for conversion into a GIS format for inclusion in the Town's Storm Drainage System Map through funding that was acquired at the last town meeting.	At the May 11, 2009 Annual Town Meeting the General Bylaws of the Town were amended to create a new Sterling Stormwater Management Bylaw. It was designed to protect public health, safety, environment by establishing requirements and procedures to manage stormwater runoff, promote groundwater recharge and prevent water pollution from new development and redevelopment.
3-2	Adopt a Bylaw Governing Discharges to the Municipal Storm Drain System	Sterling Town Department of Public Works Sterling Conservation Commission Sterling Board of Health	Fall '06 - Draft the Bylaw Governing Discharges to the Municipal Storm Drainage System. - Take the Bylaw Governing Discharges to the Municipal Storm Drainage System to Town Meeting for acceptance. - Track the number of enforcement actions taken. - Post Bylaw on Town's web site.	- Proposed bylaws have been developed and will be on the Fall '07 Town Meeting warrant - Article 13 on the Special Town Meeting of Oct. 15, 2007 amended the Towns General Bylaws by adding a new section entitled ILICIT CONNECTIONS AND DISCHARGES TO THE STORM DRAIN SYSTEM. This addresses Purpose and Authority, Definitions, Regulations, Prohibited Activities, Suspension of Access, Notification of Spills, Enforcement, Severability and, Transitional Provisions.	- All Bylaws have been adopted at Town Meetings. - Enforcement actions are continuing by Sterling Conservation Commission as well as the DCR. - The Bylaws governing discharges are posted on the Town of Sterling website.
3-3	Implement an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Plan	Sterling Department of Public Works	Fall '06 - Winter '07/08/09 - Develop an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Plan. - Conduct dry-weather field screening of outfalls and track the number of surveys indicating a possible illicit connection. - Trace the source of potential illicit discharges. - Track the number of illicit connections found. - Report on the success of obtaining alternative funding to assist in illicit connection removal.	Article 13 on the Special Town Meeting of Oct. 15, 2007 amended the Towns General Bylaws by adding a new section entitled ILICIT CONNECTIONS AND DISCHARGES TO THE STORM DRAIN SYSTEM. This addresses Purpose and Authority, Definitions, Regulations, Prohibited Activities, Suspension of Access, Notification of Spills, Enforcement, Severability and, Transitional Provisions.	Field screening of outfalls are conducted when catch basins and manhole cleaning is performed along with the sweeping of road sand.
3-4	Establish a Formal Septic System Management Program (SSMP)	Sterling Board of Health	Fall '03 - Winter '07/08/09 - Track the distribution of the public education packets. - Post educational information on the BOH's website. - Track the number of septic system pumping companies licensed by the Town each year. - Track the number of septic system installers that are licensed by the Town each year. - Track the number of Certificates of Compliance issued each year. - Track the number of failed septic systems identified each year and action taken. - Track the number of property owners that participate in the Septic System Repair Loan Program (SSRLP).	12 septic system pumping companies were licensed by the Town in 2008. 38 septic system installers that were licensed by the Town in 2008. - N/A Certificates of Compliance were issued in 2008. 5 septic systems were identified as having failed and were repaired in 2008. - N/A property owners participated in the SSRLP in 2008.	Tracking to continue.

3a. Additions

No additions to report.

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 5 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 6
4-1	Adopt a Stormwater Management and Land Disturbance Bylaw	Sterling Conservation Commission	Spring '06 - Draft the Stormwater Management and Land Disturbance Bylaw. - Take the Stormwater Management and Land Disturbance Bylaw to Town Meeting for acceptance. - Track the number of enforcement actions taken.	- Proposed bylaws have been developed and will be on the Fall '07 Town Meeting warrant - STM Articles 11 + 12 on Oct. 15, 2007 amended the Protective Zoning By-laws in both Site Development Requirements and Site Plan Review. These two amended By-laws address both Stormwater Management and Land Disturbance.	- All necessary Bylaws have been adopted - Enforcement continues by Sterling Conservation Commission and DCR.
4-2	Develop a Site Inspection Form and Conduct Site Inspections	Sterling Conservation Commission	Spring '06 – Winter '07/08/09 - Develop a Site Inspection Form that reflects the ESCP requirements. - Track the frequency of inspections conducted for each site. - Track the completion of inspection forms. - Track the number of failed ESC BMP's discovered on each site.	The Sterling Conservation Commission in conjunction with their Agent handle all site inspections as well as the Department of Conservation and Recreation.	Enforcement and inspections are conducted by the Conservation Commission and DCR.
4-3	Develop and Implement a Citizen Complaint Hotline	Sterling Department of Public Works Sterling Conservation Commission	Spring '06 - Establish the Citizen Complaint Hotline. - Advertise the Citizen Complaint Hotline. - Track the number of complaints received via the Citizen Complaint Hotline. - Track the problems/incidents remedied as a result of the Citizen Complaint Hotline.	A citizen complaint link is provided on the DPW web site www.sterlingdpw.com To date no complaints have been received	A citizen complaint link is provided on the DPW web site www.sterlingdpw.com To date no complaints have been received

4a. Additions

No additions to report.

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping in Municipal Operations

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 5 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – Permit Year 6
6-1	Develop a Formal Training Program for DPW Staff	Sterling Department of Public Works Superintendent	Fall '06 – Winter '07/08/09 - Develop the DPW employee-training manual. - Conduct training sessions with all current employees. - Train all new DPW employees in accordance with the training manual. - Track employees trained in accordance to the training manual. - Conduct refresher training for employees after every two years of employment.	Goals were revised. No activities took place this year	Activities to proceed as noted in the Measurable Goal's column.
6-2	Formalize the Catch Basin Cleaning Program	Sterling Department of Public Works	Summer '03 – Winter '07/08/09 - Clean all municipal catch basins a minimum of once every three-year period. - Document catch basin cleaning activities.	- During 2006 approximately 35% of the Town's catch basins were cleaned. - An accurate log of catch basin c During 2007 approximately 40% of the Town's catch basins were cleaned. - An accurate log of catch basin cleaning activities was completed and is filed at the DPW facility - DPW facility	- During 2009 approximately 25% of the Town's catch basins were cleaned. - An accurate log of catch basin cleaning activities was completed and is filed at the DPW facility. - Documentation to continue in the Measurable Goals column.
6-3	Maintain Municipally Operated Structural BMP's	Sterling Department of Public Works	Spring 06/07 - Conduct an inventory of municipally maintained structural BMP's. - Clean municipally maintained structural BMP's on an as needed basis. - Track maintenance activities conducted for each structural BMP. - Once a year, place a notice in the DPW Notes section of the Sterling Meetinghouse News that informs residents that any maintenance requests for municipally maintained detention basins located within their subdivisions should be directed to the Department of Public Works.	All goals were achieved	All goals were achieved
6-4	Formalize the Existing Parking Lot and Street Sweeping Program	Sterling Department of Public Works	Summer '03 – Winter '07/08/09 - Sweep all municipal streets and parking lots a minimum of once per year. - Maintain an accurate log of streets swept, sweepings collected and method of disposal. - Re-evaluate storage practices and make improvements in order to ensure compliance with the MADEP BWP Reuse and Disposal of Street Sweepings Policy by the end of the permit term. - Update inventory of municipal streets and parking lots as needed.	- All municipal streets and parking lots were swept a minimum of once during 2008. - An accurate log of streets swept, sweepings collected and method of disposal was completed and is filed at the DPW facility. - The street sweeping tracking sheets were updated and the inventory of municipal streets and parking lots were revised.	Accurate logs and inventory continues.
6-5	Develop a Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance Policy	Sterling Department of Public Works	Winter '06 Develop and implement a vehicle and equipment maintenance policy and incorporate policy requirements into the DPW employee-training program.	Goals have been revised	Goals have been revised
6-6	Develop a Vehicle & Equipment Cleaning Policy	Sterling Department of Public Works	Winter '04/05 - Develop and implement a vehicle and equipment cleaning policy that works toward complying with the Massachusetts DEP's upcoming vehicle washing policy. - Incorporate policy requirements into the DPW employee-training program and provide to the Town's Police Department and Fire Department.	- We have implemented a vehicle and equipment cleaning policy that works toward complying with the Massachusetts DEP's upcoming vehicle washing policy. - A new garage facility is currently being designed which will incorporate a recycled water wash bay. Construction has started and is expected to be completed by Feb. '08. - Goals have been revised	- The Sterling DPW is in full compliance with the Massachusetts DEP vehicle washing policy. - The renovated DPW facility has water recycling wash bay. All departments town-wide are using the new wash bay.
6-7	Develop a Landscape and Lawn Care Policy	Sterling Department of Public Works	Winter '06 - Develop and implement a landscape and lawn care policy. - Incorporate the policy requirements into the DPW employee-training program.	Goals have been revised	Activities to proceed as noted in the Measurable Goal's column.